

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 15404 061904Z

17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-04 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05

L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 COME-00 EB-04 LAB-01 SIL-01 /064 W

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R 061630Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7968

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, IT

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SPLIT IN RANKS OF NON-COMMUNIST LABOR

1. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT A CLIMAX MAY BE APPROACHING IN THE MATTER OF A POSSIBLE SPLIT IN THE NON-COMMUNIST LABOR MOVEMENT. CISL SECRETARY GENERAL STORTI AND HIS FOLLOWERS SEEM TO HAVE TAKEN THE OFFENSIVE AGAINST MINORITY LEADER SCALIA.

2. RECENTLY, DAMIANI, THE PRO-SCALIA SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CISL'S HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS UNION (SISM), WAS EASED OUT OF HIS POSITION AND REPLACED BY A STORTI SUPPORTER. DAMIANI, WHO IS FIGHTING THE ACTION, WAS ACCUSED OF ACTING IN AN AUTHORITARIAN MANNER BY SEEKING TO ALLY HIS UNION WITH INDEPENDENT UNIONS IN THE EDUCATIONAL FIELD, RATHER THAN WORKING WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE FEDERATION CGIL-CISL-UIL (CCU).

3. TODAY, ORAZIO ZAPPALA IS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM HIS POSITION AS PROVINCIAL CISL SECRETARY FOR SICILY AND REPLACED BY A STORTI MAN. ZAPPALA, TOO, IS ACCUSED OF ACTING

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PAGE 02 ROME 15404 061904Z

IN AN AUTHORITARIAN WAY. ZAPPALA'S REMOVAL, TOGETHER WITH

THE TOPIC OF LABOR UNITY, WILL BE ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL
SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION BY THE CISL GENERAL COUNCIL ON
NOVEMBER 14-15.

4. SIGNS OF DISSENSION ARE INCREASING WITHIN UIL AS WELL.
A MAJORITY OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC FACTION WITHIN UIL IS
SHOWING INCREASING UNHAPPINESS WITH THE COURSE OF EVENTS.
THOUGH THEY DENY ANY INTENTION TO SECEDE, THEY MIGHT WELL BE
AMENABLE TO JOINING A BREAKAWAY ACTION SHOULD SCALIA UNDER-
TAKE TO INITIATE ONE IN CISL. PARTICULARLY IF THE SOCIAL
DEMOCRATS END UP OUTSIDE OF NEWLY-FORMED GOVERNMENT, AS IS NOW
BEING SPECULATED, THE SITUATION FOR THE UIL SOCIAL DEMOCRATS
WILL BECOME HIGHLY VOLATILE.

5. COMMENT: STORTI WOULD SEEM TO BE FORCING SCALIA'S HAND
WITH HIS RECENT ACTIONS. PARTICULARLY WITH THE ACTION AGAINST
ZAPPALA, AIMED AT THE VERY HEARTLAND OF SCALIA'S
STRENGTH, SCALIA CANNOT REMAIN INDIFFERENT TO THESE DEVELOP-
MENTS. THE UPCOMING CISL GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING WILL
PROBABLY BE A STORMY ONE WHICH COULD POSSIBLY LEAD TO A SPLIT.
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